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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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# **TOLLESON MAN CONVICTED IN INTERNATIONAL ATM SCHEME**

PHOENIX - Jagdish Singh, DOB 8/11/73, of Tolleson, Ariz., was found guilty on Friday, December 17, 2004, of seven counts by a federal jury in Phoenix including Conspiracy, Bank Fraud, and Fraud in Connection with Access Devices.

The evidence at trial showed that Jagdish Singh and four others obtained nearly \$430,000 from the accounts of 277 customers of six financial institutions in Phoenix during four bursts of activity between April 2001 and May 2003. Some of the funds were obtained through unauthorized withdrawals in Canada and the United Kingdom, including Glasgow, Scotland. Jagdish Singh was a clerk at five different convenience marts where customer debit card and PIN information was fraudulently obtained. His two brothers who live in Glasgow, Scotland, Gurdev Singh Dhnoay and Lakhvir Singh, were identified in ATM security photos using counterfeit cards and the stolen PIN numbers to make withdrawals. Two additional United Kingdom residents were recruited to assist in making withdrawals in May 2003. The scheme was undone when a citizen called the Gilbert Police Department to complain that an individual had been standing at an ATM making withdrawals for about 45 minutes. Police were able to locate the suspect.

The jury also found that approximately \$90,000 found on or with the defendants on May 3 and 4, 2003, was subject to forfeiture as proceeds of the offenses.

The defendant was remanded to U.S. Marshal's custody after trial. Lakvir Singh was charged but fled before he could be arrested. Gurdev Singh Dhnoay was arrested and posted

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\$50,000 bond but fled before arraignment. Warrants remain outstanding for Lakhvir Singh and Gurdev Singh Dhnoay.

Jagdish Singh had been charged with violating Title 18 U.S. Code Section 371, Conspiracy; Section 1344, Bank Fraud; and, Section 1029, Fraud in Connection with Access Devices. The case was tried before U.S. District Judge David G. Campbell from December 7 through December 17, 2004. Sentencing is set before Judge Campbell on March 4, 2005.

A conviction for 18 U.S.C. 371 carries a maximum penalty of 5 years, a \$ 250,000 fine or both. A conviction for 18 U.S.C. 1344 carries a maximum penalty of 30 years, a \$ 1,000,000 fine or both. A conviction for 18 U.S.C. 1029(a)(1), Use of Counterfeit Access Devices, carries a maximum penalty of 15 years, a \$ 250,000 fine or both. A conviction for 18 U.S.C. 1029(a)(2), Use of Unauthorized Access Devices, carries a maximum penalty of 10 years, a \$ 250,000 fine or both. A conviction for 18 U.S.C. 1029(a)(2), Use of Access Devices Issued to Another, carries a maximum penalty of 15 years, a \$ 250,000 fine or both.

The investigation leading to the guilty verdict was conducted by the FBI and the Gilbert Police Department. The prosecution was handled by Daniel R. Drake, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

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